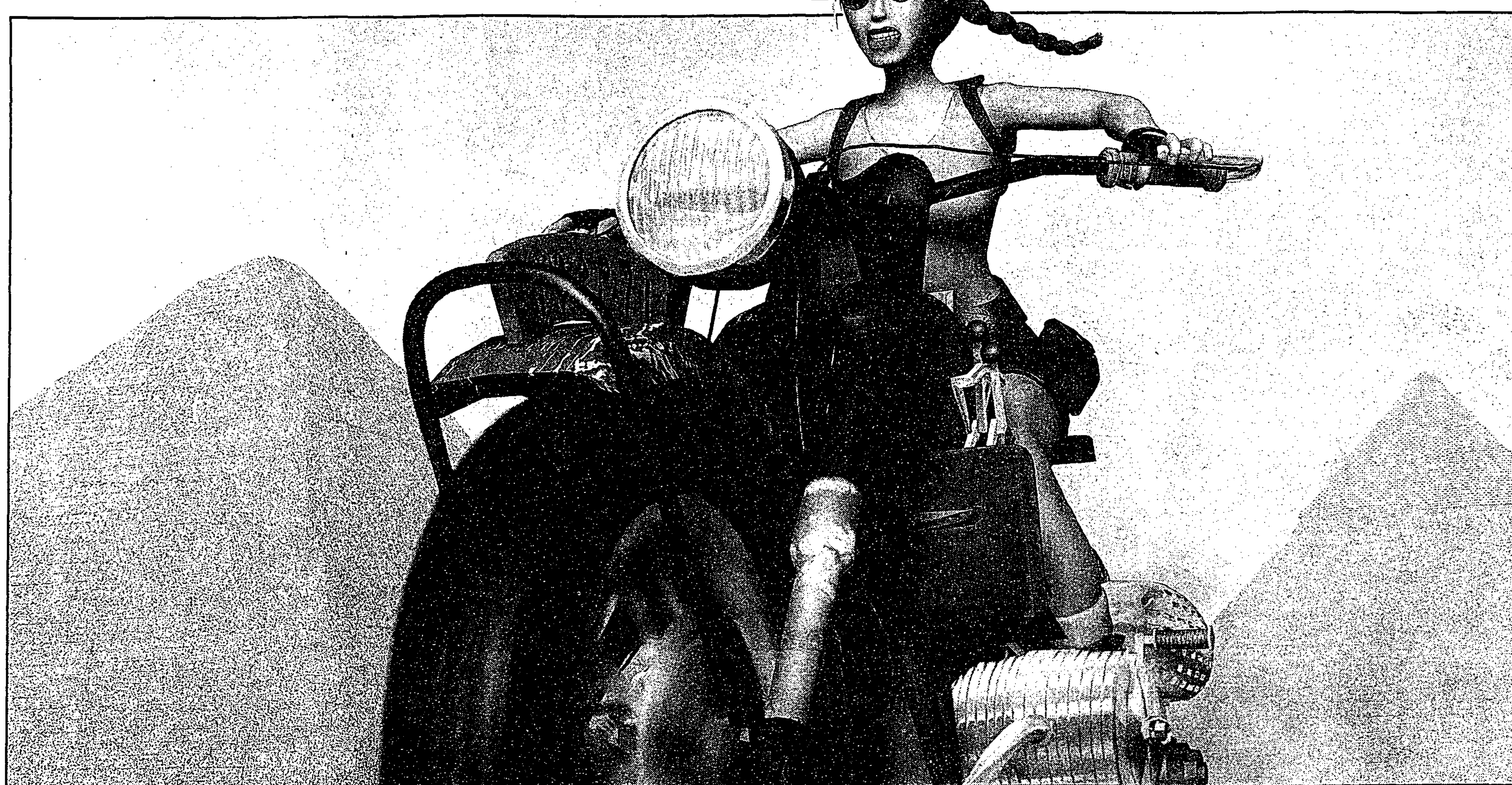


Down among the dead



Lara has escaped - barely - with her life from the assassin sent to kill her in Luxor. But it was he who lost his life - and the vital pages of the notebook which Lara had thought lost. The recovered pages provide her with enough information to head out to the Valley of the Kings. But how to get there? Find out in the fifth episode of ERICA WAGNER's tale.

REALISING SHE WAS too exhausted to stand upright for much longer, Lara had headed back to her guesthouse after the encounter with Haggarty. She washed the blood from her knife and from her face and hands, and lay down in her clothes on the sagging cot. Despite the roil inside her head, sleep closed over her; but she woke again before the dawn, with the sun only a thin coral hint at the horizon. Before she left she dug the little statue of Isis out of her suitcase and set it on her pillow. If this wasn't the place for talismans, what place was?

She'd piece together where to go, she thought. North from the tombs, a distance measured in paces, that part was easy enough. The trouble was, after that Carter - clearly wishing to keep his discovery to himself - had shifted into what looked an ancient Egyptian system of measurement, based on the sun casting shadows at certain times of day; she didn't see how she could begin to work it out. But in Lara's book, being on the spot was three-quarters of the way to understanding. As for what had happened to Blackmore - well, he wasn't in a position to help her any more, that was for sure, so she tried to put him out of her mind.

Now - how to get to the Valley of the Kings. She wasn't about to hail a taxi. Luckily, the answer presented itself as she turned into the Sharia al-Karnak. A boy on a motorcycle - an old Royal Enfield! Beat up, but beautiful still - he was arriving, she guessed, for work in some kitchen somewhere. He was just locking it up when she walked up to him.

"Salam' alekem," she said.

He nodded at her, looked her up and down warily. "Nice bike," she said in English, pointing at it. She hoped for a universal language of motorcycles, and sure enough, there seemed to be one; the boy broke into a wide grin and caressed its headlamp.

FAMILY HOLIDAYS TO EGYPT TO BE WON

From now until the New Year, The Times, Eidos and Microsoft are giving you the chance to win some fantastic prizes. But there is a catch - you have to solve Lara's seven riddles. Each individual riddle offers the chance to win Lara Croft merchandise. Solving all seven gives the chance to win a Goldenjoy Holidays family trip to Egypt. If you have missed any puzzles they are printed on the opposite page. The next riddle appears next Monday.

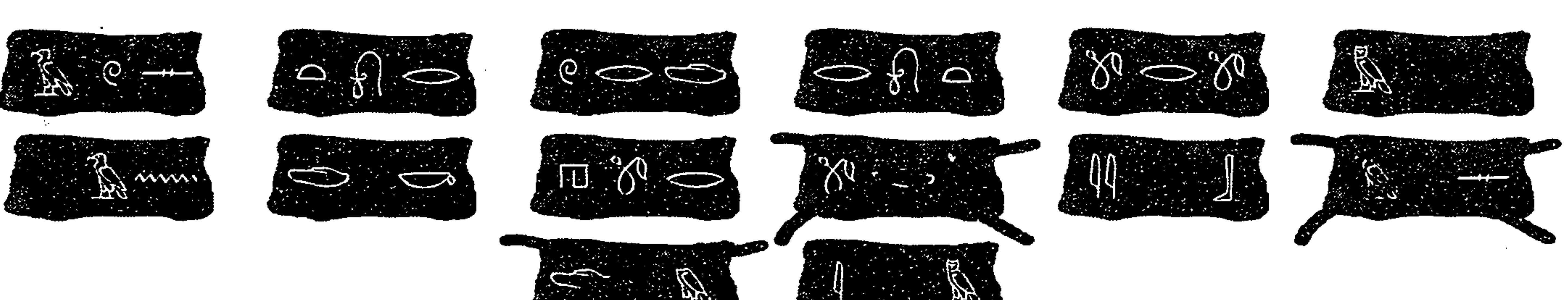
USING THE TIMES ROSETTA STONE (RIGHT) AS A KEY, TRANSLATE AND RE-ARRANGE THE PIECES OF THE SMASHED TABLET BELOW TO FIT THE BLANK GRID (WE HAVE ALREADY INSERTED THREE BLOCKS TO GET YOU STARTED). EACH PIECE CONTAINS THREE ELEMENTS - HIEROGLYPHS OR SPACES. SOLVE THE RIDDLE. WHEN YOU HAVE THE ANSWER, RING THE COMPETITION HOTLINE, LEAVING THE ANSWER, YOUR NAME, ADDRESS AND DAYTIME TELEPHONE NUMBER. ENTRIES MAY ALSO BE MADE VIA OUR WEBSITE. CLUES MAY BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE AND AT WWW.MICROSOFT.COM/UK/ENCARTA/

PLAY ON OUR WEBSITE [www.the-times.co.uk/lara/](http://WWW.THE-TIMES.CO.UK/LARA/)


SPHINX OF BLACK QUARTZ JUDGE MY VOW

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Who am I?



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ONE WEEKLY SECOND PRIZE:
Tomb Raider games 1, 2, 3 and 4, Lara Desk Statue, Lara Wallet, Bath Towel, Half Zip fleece, Lara Analogue watch, Lara Ladies watch, Lara T Shirt, Lara Mousemat, one copy of Microsoft Encarta Reference Suite 2000

FOUR WEEKLY THIRD PRIZES:
Lara desk statue, Lara Bath towel, Lara wallet, Lara Bobble hat, Lara Polo shirt, Lara Mousemat

EIGHTY WEEKLY FOURTH PRIZES:
Lara T-shirt, Lara Key Fob

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